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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE condemnation of several hundred of our citizens in Cuba, to say nothing of thousands of unoffending Cubans, to starvation in the midst of plenty, a fact indubitably set forth in the reports of our consuls, has constrained Mr. McKinley to take steps for the protection of our citizens. But the President has not gone about the protection of our citizens in an efficacious manner. In a brief, colorless message he has called upon Congress for an appropriation to buy food for our starving citizens, and pay for the transportation to our shores of such of our impoverished citizens as are ready to close the Cuban chapter of their lives, give up all hope of resuscitating their wrecked Cuban fortunes and who are desirous of returning to the United States. But this is not extending the protection to which our citizens in Cuba are entitled. It is extending charity rather than protection.

The thousands of men, women and children starving in Cuba, our citizens among the rest, do not ask that food be given them; they ask that they be given the opportunity to feed themselves. The soil of Cuba responds most bountifully to the toil of man, and even when untilled it is not niggardly in its yield of human foods. All that man needs to sustain life is an opportunity to garner the fruits of the soil, the opportunity to gather the fruits

of the earth and feed himself. But this opportunity has been denied to thousands of peacefully-disposed people in Cuba, to several hundred of our own people, and so they starve surrounded by plenty.

It should be understood that the hundreds of our citizens now in abject misery are not without property; they are poverty-stricken only because they have been denied the right to the use of their property; driven from their homes and fields, denied the opportunity to garner the fruits of their toil and consume the food that is their own, and that they might have if they were permitted to go after it. But they have been forced from their farms into the towns under the plea of military necessity; their crops have been destroyed, their cattle ruthlessly slaughtered, and they have been denied the right to labor under the plea that the insurgents might profit under their toil, might feed on their cattle and the fruits of their fields. In short, the Spanish are incapable of protecting the property of our citizens, incapable of protecting it from the raids of the insurgents, and, therefore, they destroy it. This General Weyler, who outvies the unspeakable Turk in his cruelties, admits, and this being so it is quite time that we placed the property of our citizens, that the Spanish cannot protect, under the protection of the insurgents by recognizing them as belligerents. It may be that the insurgents are no more capable of protecting such property against the Spaniards than the Spaniards are of protecting it against the insurgents; but, perhaps, recognized as belligerents the Cubans would not be powerless to extend this protection. If they should be, if neither Spanish nor Cubans are capable of protecting our citizens in their rights, it is quite time that we should take a hand and extend that protection which no one else can.

SUCH is the protection that our citizens in Cuba are entitled to, but such is not the protection that Mr. McKinley would accord them. He merely proposes that we feed those who are unjustly deprived of the opportunity to feed themselves; he does not suggest that we protect our citizens in their rights and insist that they be given an opportunity to feed themselves. He proposes that we aid Spain in depopulating the island by taking away our citizens; against the unjustifiable edict that forces the agricultural classes from the farms into the towns under pain of death and condemns them to starve in the midst of plenty, deprives them of the opportunity to help themselves, he does not protest. So it is only natural that his Cuban message should have been received by Congress with a measure of disappointment. It was hoped, if not expected, that he would take a more comprehensive view of the Cuban question and a more pronounced stand. It is well to provide for feeding our starving citizens, it would be better to enable them to feed themselves, and sooner or later we must take steps to this end unless we would see the depopulation of Cuba and all our citizens now resident in Cuba transported to the United States. And the furnishing of our citizens in Cuba with transportation to the United States is not doing them justice, it is not protecting them in

their rights. They have property rights in Cuba in the use of which they should to be protected. And if the Spanish cannot protect these rights, the Cubans should be given the chance, if neither Cubans nor Spanish can protect our citizens in their rights we should intervene and protect our own interests by putting an end to the struggle that is depopulating and devastating the island.

Our material interests demand, then, that we should recognize the belligerency of the Cubans. But there are higher reasons than mere material ones for taking such a course. We have higher obligations than those imposed by material interests; we have duties to perform to our fellow men. It is the right and duty of a Christian people to intervene to put a stop to an unavailing struggle, such as it is apparent that Spain's struggle to retain sovereignty over Cuba has become, it is our right and duty to prevent the useless shedding of blood, to put a stop to a conflict that is no better than a butchery, that is waged against defenseless men and women rather than against armed combatants, a conflict that has become one of extermination. So if our material interests bid us recognize the Cubans as belligerents, higher obligations that we owe our fellow men bid us recognize Cuban independence.

These higher obligations Mr. McKinley does not take into account. He calls for an appropriation to feed our own citizens starving in the midst of plenty; he does not take cognizance of the thousands of Cubans in the same position. It would seem that with the starving of Cubans, the depopulation of the island, we have no concern, that our duty begins and ends with looking after our own citizens. In stopping short at this, Mr. McKinley has disappointed Congress and the vast majority of our people; he has won the applause of the worshipers of Mammon, of men who recognize the obligation of the Government to protect the material interests of our people, but who do not recognize obligations imposed upon us as a humane and God-fearing people.

We trust Congress will pick up the Cuban question where Mr. McKinley dropped it. Perhaps his heart is not steeled to the sufferings of our fellow-men as are the hearts of the worshipers of Mammon, whose interests Mr. McKinley was chosen to serve, and it may be that he would welcome a little shoving. Indeed, it has ever been his nature to wait to be pushed, to keep his ear to the ground, as the practiced politician, and wait to hear unmistakable rumblings before taking decisive action.

THE Senate promptly responded to the President's suggestion for helping our citizens in Cuba by passing a resolution appropriating \$50,000. But when this resolution got to the House it was halted, not because of any opposition to the appropriation, but because of the insistence of Mr. Bailey that the House be permitted to vote upon a belligerency resolution concurrently with the resolution appropriating money for the relief of the Cuban sufferers of American citizenship. To the consideration of the Cuban question in this broader way Mr. Dingley objected, and Mr. Bailey responded by objecting to the consideration of the first resolution.

The leaders of the House could have readily gotten over this objection by calling an immediate meeting of the Committee on Rules and causing a special rule for the immediate consideration of the resolution to be reported. But Mr. Reed and Mr. Dingley hesitated to take this course. They could, of course, have gotten any report they wanted from the Committee on Rules, of which the Speaker is chairman. But Mr. Bailey is also a member of the Committee on Rules, and he proposed to submit a minority report providing for the consideration of the appropriation resolution concurrently with a resolution recognizing Cuban belligerency. This would have brought the question before the House, and to this the leaders of the Republicans in the House were opposed, fearing they could not control their followers, and that the belligerency resolution would be adopted.

And the adoption of such resolution Mr. Reed is resolved to prevent; he knows that the House would adopt it if given the chance, and so he is resolved to keep the House from considering any such measure.

The stand taken by Mr. Bailey with a view to forcing the question put Mr. Reed and his first-lieutenant on the floor of the House, Mr. Dingley, in a dilemma. Rather than face the issue, Mr. Dingley moved an adjournment of the House, and thus took the responsibility of postponing the measure making an appropriation for our starving citizens in Cuba. Mr. Reed and Mr. Dingley preferred that the sufferers starve three days longer rather than that the House be given the chance to vote on Cuban belligerency. Meanwhile, a way was sought to circumvent Mr. Bailey; it was found by having the Committee on Rules report a rule for the consideration of the resolution appropriating \$50,000, and ruling Mr. Bailey's substitute report, providing for the consideration of the resolution with an amendment providing for the recognition of Cuban belligerency out of order, on the ground that the amendment was not germane to the original resolution.

The expression of the House on the Cuban question is to be directed by Mr. Reed, not by the members of the House. Mr. Reed has, indeed, succeeded wonderfully in exalting the power of the Speaker over the House.

WHILE the Senate is engaged in the discussion of Cuban affairs, and Mr. Reed refuses to entertain such discussion in the House, the tariff bill hangs fire. It is held in abeyance, as it were, to enable Senators to grasp its features before entering upon a discussion of the bill. And this has proven no easy matter. The schedules are so complicated that laymen and experts alike have become involved in seemingly inextricable confusion. Indeed, it is the inability on the part of the tariff experts to agree upon the probable results of certain schedules that has led to the postponement of the measure. It is already, or will be Monday, six days behind time. And that it will make rapid progress through the Senate seems quite impossible, for it is generally regarded with dissatisfaction. Republicans criticize the work of their committee only less severely than the Democrats; the closer it is examined the more faults crop out, and the amendments that will be offered to the bill will be innumerable.

The attacks on the tariff are resolved primarily around the sugar schedule, which schedule seems to be satisfactory to the Sugar Trust but no one else, and is defended only by the members of the sub-committee of the Senate Finance Committee, who framed it, and by such Senators as Senator Quay. The President is reported to be much opposed to the sugar schedule, even to the point of vetoing the tariff bill should it be sent to him with the sugar schedule in the shape it now appears in the Senate bill. What grounds there are for such reports we do not know. We believe they are groundless; but the very fact that they find credence evidences the extent of the dissatisfaction with the Republican tariff bill.

IN view of the great and concealed advantages given to the Sugar Trust by the pending tariff bill, and its defense by Senators wrapped up in the scandal of three years ago, it is not surprising that scandal should attach to the present bill. And, meanwhile, we are having the echoes of the old scandal in the imprisonment of Chapman for contempt of the Senate in refusing to divulge the names of Senators whom, rumor had it, had speculated in sugar stocks through his brokerage house. His imprisonment is being made most comfortable, and unparalleled freedom and privileges are extended him; but, aside from the principle involved in treating the rich prisoner differently from the poor, we do not complain of this, or rather do not begrudge Chapman the comfort of his surroundings; for he is really suffering the

punishment of others' misdoings; he is no more than the tool suffering for refusal to uncover the real transgressors.

It is not the broker who dealt in stocks, who served Senators who speculated on advance knowledge of the sugar schedule, but the guilty Senators, who are deserving of punishment. It is the man who purchased and the men who sold votes, if there was such corruption, who should be punished. If there was purchase of votes by the Sugar Trust, it should be the head of that Trust who should be punished rather than the go-between; it should be Havemeyer, rather than his attorney, or his broker, though the go-between should not go unscathed. We are now to have Havemeyer tried for contempt of the Senate in refusing to answer questions propounded nearly three years ago. In due course, he will probably be convicted and condemned to a sojourn in the Washington jail for the better part of a month, where his stay will be made as pleasant as possible.

But even this easy sort of punishment may not be without result. It may teach men a wholesome regard for the right of the Senate to investigate the conduct of its own members. And with this right tested, and the Senate armed with the power to punish witnesses for a refusal to answer questions uncovering the dealings of Senators, it behooves the Senate not to occupy itself with raking up the embers of the old scandal, but with making an investigation of the new. As Senator Tillman pointedly said, what we want now is not a resurrection of the past, but "the man who bought your men," (meaning the Republican members of the Finance Committee) "if they were bought." This is the question of importance now.

MR. DAVID LUBIN, of Sacramento, Cal., has succeeded in advancing, by one stage, his proposition for the payment of a bounty on the export of agricultural products. An amendment to the tariff bill to this effect is now suggested. It is urged by some silver Republican members of the Senate and the House on the ground that only by such a system can the farmer secure a benefit to compensate him for the enhanced prices for manufactured goods that the imposition of tariff duties, for the benefit of the manufacturer, oblige him to pay. It is argued, in short, that a protective tariff now results in taxing the farmer for the benefit of the manufacturer, and that, therefore, it is unjust and inequitable. But such argument rests on a misconception of the aims of a protective tariff. It is not the aim of a protective tariff to enhance the prices of manufactured goods, but rather to cheapen them, and a tariff duty that does not result in building up competition and bringing down prices to a level commensurate with the cost of production, does not serve the purposes of protection, and should be repealed. A true protective tariff should ever conserve one end, and that is a development of our resources and consequent diversification of industries. And it is by bringing about such diversification of industries, bringing farmer and manufacturer closer together, reducing the cost of exchanging the products of the farm and factory, thus enabling the farmer to command a price for his products more nearly approaching that paid by the consumer and enabling the manufacturer to command a price for manufactured goods more nearly approaching that paid by the farmer, that a true protective tariff, a tariff leading to a diversification of industries, not the building up of monopoly, will conserve the interests of all classes. It will benefit the farmer as it benefits the manufacturer, for by building up diversified industries, bringing producer and consumer closer together, reducing the distance which products have to be transported, consequently lessening freight charges, to say nothing of other costs of distribution, and hence the tax on production, the farmer will be enabled to buy manufactured goods cheaper even though the manufacturer get better prices, and the consumer in the factory town will be enabled to buy the products of the farm cheaper, even though the farmer gets higher prices.

A protective tariff does not therefore rest as a tax on farmers for the benefit of manufacturers, it is not inequitable, and the payment of a bounty on agricultural exports is not demanded to compensate the farmer for the imposition of import duties on manufactured articles, for such imposition, provided it results in building up competition and diversifying industries, does not enhance, but must lessen, the cost of manufactured goods to the farmer. The imposition of a duty which has resulted in sheltering monopoly does, of course, result in putting a tax on farmers as upon all other consumers, but such a duty has no place in a protective system; it will have no place in the new tariff if passed with Senator Pettigrew's anti-trust amendment.

WHAT is more, it is doubtful if our farmers would reap any advantage from the payment of a bounty on exports of agricultural products. A bounty of ten per cent. on the value of exports is proposed. Such a bounty would, of course, stimulate exports and thus curtail the demand for the products of our competitors. But would our competitors suffer this loss without a struggle? It is quite certain that they would not. They would cut prices to keep their markets. We would have to cut prices to meet them. And so it is quite within the range of probability that the bounty paid by the government to the exporter of farm produce would no more than make good the fall in price of grain in Europe, a fall brought about by an increased competition directly attributable to the payment of such bounty. So it appears that the British consumers would be more likely to profit from the payment of a bounty on agricultural products than our farmers. Besides, it must be remembered that much of the bounty paid by the Government would come, in the first place, out of the pockets of our farmers. For instance, if we put a duty of ten cents a pound on coffee to raise the \$60,000,000, or thereabouts, required for the payment of a bounty of ten per cent. on exports of agricultural products, the farmer would have to pay his share. Every time he bought a pound of coffee he would be taking ten cents out of his pocket for the payment of a bounty, a bounty that might find its way back again into his pockets, but might be held up by the exporter of grain, or, might again lead to a fall in the price of grain, and thus in effect find its way into the pocket of the British consumer.

It is of course true that the imposition of import duties on agricultural products, of which we have a large surplus for export, can in no way benefit our farmers. It is also true that the price at which we must dispose of the surplus product abroad, regulates the price of that portion sold for domestic consumption. So, also, is it true that we have to sell our surplus agricultural products in the face of very severe competition and at ruinously low prices. But the remedy is not the payment of a bounty on exports, but a taking away of the bounty enjoyed by our competitors in the shape of a premium on gold, and which has resulted in building up the severe competition. The great benefit we can confer on our farmers and planters is the taking away from our competitors of the bounty of 100 per cent., as a premium on gold, which they now enjoy, a taking away that would cost us nothing, not the payment of a bounty of ten per cent. on exports, that would cost us much, and benefit in largest measure our customers.

DISAPPOINTMENT in the failure of the demand for manufactured goods to revive is intense. Manufacturers have been waiting for it ever since the ballots were counted last November. Some, who built on the promise of better times, increased the output of their mills in the confident hope that Mr. McKinley's election would be followed by a quickening of the demand for manufactured goods, and who, not having found a market, stagger under the load of unsalable goods and of indebtedness incurred in their creation, have good cause for bitter reflection. A sign of the times is the general shutting down of the cotton mills

of North Carolina to enable the demand to catch up with the supply. When these mills start up again, after the agreed shut-down, it will be heralded as an indication of returning prosperity. As the *Philadelphia Inquirer* says: "The demand for manufactured goods is less than it was. In the cotton goods business prices, in some cases, are down to the lowest level on record, but the demand is light, and spinners North and South are considering the advisability of curtailing the out-put."

Some of our disappointed prophets of coming prosperity that has not come, whistle hard to keep their courage up. Thus the *New York Tribune* remarked on Monday last that "the persons who insist that business is not really improving have a rather difficult task on hand this week." But we skip a few paragraphs, and at the foot of the same article we come across this, not a little belying, statement:

"The condition of the chief industries is not at the moment encouraging. In the iron industry there is a struggle to meet the necessities resulting from a cost of material much below what has been known in past years, and the disruption of the beam combination during the last week will probably result in much lower prices for structural products, and also for billets. In the woolen and cotton manufacture there has been no important change during the week, as both are waiting for the outcome of action at Washington, and there is a disposition to restrict production as far as possible, until it is known how far the tariff is to be advanced."

THE Honorable John Wanamaker, than whom no one is in better place to measure the pulse of trade and industry, also sees the future in a pretty blue light. Moreover, he is not blind to the signs of the times. He sees coming political revolution, the overthrow of the Republican party consequent on its failure to redeem its promises of prosperity. It has yet time to redeem these promises, but there is little prospect that it will do so. It is not moving along lines that will lead to business revival, but on quite contrary lines. The one ray of promise is, what seems to us, to be the slim chance of achieving an international agreement for the restoration of bimetallism, though Sir William Houldsworth, one of England's foremost bimetallists, thinks otherwise and expresses the opinion that the prospects of an early international agreement were never more hopeful. We hope he is right in his judgment, and that we may reap the boon of an early restoration to bimetallism. If the Republican party achieves this it may redeem, in part at least, its promises of prosperity. If so our producing classes will rejoice. If the Republican party does not achieve this it will accomplish nothing that can lead up to prosperity, it will do nothing to fulfill its promises of prosperity and we will have darker rather than brighter times. The passage of a monopoly tariff will do nothing towards bringing better times.

But let us see how Mr. Wanamaker, who worked ardently for Mr. McKinley's election, who stumped the State for Mr. McKinley for President and incidentally for himself for Senator, and who made on many a stump the Republican promises of prosperity, let us see how he views the political horoscope. These are his words:

"The country is not prosperous. Since the outset of the last Presidential campaign the party press and political leaders generally fixed the November election of 1896 as the date of the beginning of good times. A full half of the year has expired since the will of the Republican party was declared. Thus far, but one of the important issues of the campaign is nearing settlement, and hardly any noticeable improvement of the wretched times is manifest. The tide will soon set in strongly against the Republican party unless the depression of business is altered. Idleness and want breed a bitter discontent, which will never be overcome until there are ample employments."

"The foes America has to fear are not the sullen, savage Turks, or the insurrectionists of Cuba, or the territory-grasping British; but they are our own patient and heart-tired people, our own suffering, much-promised people, who betrayed and dis-

heartened, no longer have faith in their party, and will turn to any leaderships that will offer promise of better times, believing worse times can never come than those now existing. It is a terrible thing to observe public sentiment adrift and uncaptured, and the people sweeping away from their affection to the old party."

"There will most assuredly come a day when there will be a mighty revolt and resistance, resulting in a revolution, that will give birth to a new political party. Laws continually despised and disregarded, legislation conceived for blackmailing purposes, speculation by public officials in trust and other stocks, while tariffs and other financial bills are pending, must surely and irrevocably alienate the people from their party, and awaken a disposition and desperation to substitute almost any wild and untried leadership with the hope of possible relief."

PHILADELPHIA honors itself in honoring the memories of a noble pair of its aforesaid citizens, George Washington and Stephen Girard, to whom statues have been unveiled within the past week. Each in his way and degree was a maker of national greatness, the one a developer of poor boys into good men, and the other of good men into a rich and a strong nation. It is well that the eye should have opportunities to receive at a glance inspirations which come more slowly from books and speeches. But why do our orators offend the proprieties so determinedly on these holiday occasions, insisting on getting off their long harangues which not one in a thousand could hear even if they wanted to? A few off-hand remarks at the ceremony, and the orations—all cut to same pattern out of same cloth—decently sepulchred in next day's papers, this would be the rule if consideration for others prevailed over self-conceit.

A DISPATCH from the City of Mexico tells us that: "The fall in silver is equal to a strong protective policy for this Republic, and at the same time is encouraging the investment of foreign capital. The steady influx of American money is most remarkable, and the same tendency is now seen in London, where endless companies are being formed to open up unexplored regions in Mexico." We are further told that the fall in the price of silver, since the first of the year, has caused consternation among the commercial classes that deal in merchandise imported from abroad, and that the dry goods importers have been heavy sufferers. Indeed, the fall in silver has had something of the effect of a retroactive tariff law, raising the cost of all imports already in the country but that have not been paid for, as well as the cost of importations to be made in the future. The result, of course, is a great stimulus to domestic industry.

Since the first of the year the Mexican silver dollar has fallen in gold value from about 52 to 48 cents. With the silver dollar worth 52 cents in gold, the cost to the Mexican importer of an invoice of goods billed at \$100 in gold is \$192.31; but with the silver dollar worth but 48 cents, the cost is \$208.33. In other words, the Mexican importer who had to give \$192.31 in Mexican currency five months ago, for a draft for \$100 in gold, must now give \$208.33. Consequently, though the price asked by the French or American manufacturer is the same, the cost of goods of French or American manufacture imported into Mexico has been materially increased, and the importer who made purchases of American goods believing that he would only have to pay \$192, [Mexican,] for imports valued at \$100 in gold, but now finds that he must pay \$208, has suffered serious losses. In short, the fall in silver has been equivalent to a raising of the protective tariff rate on all importations from 92 to 108 per cent. It has given the Mexican producer 16 per cent. additional protection against foreign competition.

THERE is much fluttering in the dovescotes of church and society at the apparition of Bishop Potter, of New York, in the guise of Labor's champion. The Bishop has all the airs and dignities of the episcopal grandee, solidified with character, ability

and courage. At a New York clerical dinner the Bishop denounced machinery and the capitalist as having gradually ground the workingman down to the machine level. If Bishop Potter failed to express himself with his characteristic dexterity, any looseness upon economics may be pardoned for the sake of his whole-hearted sympathy with the great class who now suffer as the victims of legalized rapacity. Alluding to the hostility of rich churchmen to clerical association with labor movements, the Bishop made this manly answer: "Say what they will against it, I for one announce that from to-day on the Church of God is with the laborer." It always has been, but churches of Man and Mammon have pulled the other way as a rule.

WHILE the Eastern situation has entered a phase dangerous because fraught with hidden influences, there is no need to distrust the working of ordinary moral law. The wild rumors that will fly along the wires for the next few weeks must be discounted in advance. There is no sense in exaggerating anything, particularly when the exaggerator is very ignorant of the principles, the dominant facts, and the players of the game, as our telegraphic instructors mostly are. In putting in his claim for damages the Sultan must be regarded as a hitherto handicapped dealer who seizes his opportunity to emphasize a statement of principle as he sees it. His case briefly is that he has long been pinched and pulled by secret enemies to entrap him into reprisals that should look like unprovoked assaults, that his arms have been pinioned, not wholly against his will, for a long time, but the straps having recently been loosened, from other motives than simple kindness to him, he has beaten the only foe he could find in the open, a burglar who had broken into his outhouse, and has thrashed him into tears. He now requires his neighboring patrons and guardians to see that reparation is made, or—

What if he is not satisfied? This is the crux of the situation, but, mark this, it is precisely the crux invented by Greece one month ago. The only difference is that Turkey can strike its blow from the shoulder, where that of Greece only came from its mouth. What are the Powers likely to do? The situation is no surprise for them. They knew what would happen from the first. If there were no intermarriages between the royalties of England, Russia, Germany and Greece, the latter would long ago have been blotted out of the roll of nations, leaving only a Greece spot on the map. The fate of King George depends upon the Greek people; if they have any backbone left, he will go; if not, he will stay, propped and paid by the Powers. The Greek people, bamboozled by their politicians in league with their king, deliberately did their worst to fire Europe. They failed. The Sultan has never had that insane desire. He, his ministers, his educated subjects, and—more important than all of them—his Masters, agree in seeing it Turkey's true self-interest to make haste Europeanizing itself. There lies its safety and strength.

THE more power it displays within the fixed limits, the better it serves the purposes of Turkey, of Europe, and, from the peace point of view, the interests of Asia and the world at large. Weak rivals in business are a peril all around. Greece is worse than weak. The demands of the Sultan might be set down as big as the treasures of Ali Baba's cave; they will be treated wholly independently of him and his figures. The Turkey of to-day is emphatically not the Turkey of a century ago, nor the Turkey of 1878. The Sultan, speaking for his people, will ask no more than a proper, equitable adjustment of damages, with security for their payment and a guarantee against disturbance from the same quarter. This he will undoubtedly get. If the business ends here the storm will have passed and all can get back to work again. But, unfortunately, the Turk can only speak for himself. He has some neighbors among the Balkans whom he cannot answer for, whom it would pay him to live in peace with, but whom he would dearly like to whip. The peril

of war lies on their side the boundary line, not his, and while peace is more than probable, it may not be made sure without some ugly grimaces over the rickety fence.

AVAUNT, YE COMPLAINER OF AN EMPTY PURSE.

WEALTH, wrote Carey, is the power to command the ever gratuitous resources of nature, the power that comes of knowledge to till the soil so that it fructify with fruits of man's liking, the power to fabricate the bountiful gifts of nature that in their virgin state are useless to man into products of the highest usefulness, the power to use the winds of the seas and the waters of the land. And so it is that as man has profited by experience and gathered knowledge, learned how to bridle the forces of nature and turn them to his use, learned how to better till the earth, how to gather the bountiful harvests, delve into the earth for its wealth of minerals, and transform the cotton of the fields and the iron of the earth into articles of use, comfort and enjoyment, so has his wealth increased. So has it been that the wealth of nations has grown as inventions have been multiplied, as man's knowledge of the powers of nature, of wind and water, steam and electricity, and his ability to bridle these powers has increased.

Yet something more than all this is needed for the possession of wealth to-day, something more than the mere command of the forces of nature. That something is the command of the resources of men, the power to enslave men. In short, it is the bridling of men who have bridled the forces of nature that gives wealth to-day. It was not always so; it is not right that it should be, for it does not serve either to the comfort or advancement of the human race. On the contrary, it checks progress, for it saps the courage of those battling with nature's forces, it deprives men of the recompense of their toil and energy, thus destroys enterprise and leads to that sluggishness of mind that must retard progress.

The producers of wealth, the men who have so successfully struggled with nature, do not, to-day, enjoy the wealth they produce. They have bridled nature and the world has been enriched, but in that enrichment they have not profited. While they have been learning how to make use of nature's resources, learning how to gather the fruits of the soil, get iron and coal from the bowels of the earth and fabricate the products of farm and mine with the least expenditure of labor, obstacles have been reared up to their enjoyment of the wealth they produce. For the possession of wealth they have not only to struggle with the laws of nature, but with the laws of man. With the laws of nature they have not struggled in vain, for nature's laws are not reared as obstacles to the creation or enjoyment of wealth. They are rather guides to its creation, and to master the forces of nature and gather nature's bountiful rewards man has only to learn nature's laws. And this our producing classes have done to a degree unparalleled in the history of the world. So we are prepared to learn that the present per capita production of wealth in the United States stands unequalled among peoples of ancient or modern times, that it has been surpassed only by our own people.

Yet the producers of this unequalled wealth are not happy, they are not reaping the comforts or contentment that enjoyment of the wealth they produce would bring them. And as a sequel to this we find retrogression. The production of wealth is much less to-day than it was five years ago. And why? Not because men have lost their power over nature, not because nature gives up less liberally of her bounty in response to the toil of man, but because men, discouraged by failure to reap the rewards of their industry, have been driven to a curtailment of production until hundreds of thousands can no longer find the opportunity to toil. In the struggle after wealth our producing classes retire baffled

and discouraged; baffled not by nature, for nature is ever bountiful, but by the selfishness of man.

And what is it that man, in his selfishness, has brought about? What is it that men owning allegiance to greed and selfishness, professing to worship Christ but worshipping the God of Gain, have done to baffle our producing classes in the garnering of the fruits of their toil? They have reared a law that condemns our producing classes to toil for others' gain, to toil to fill the purses of others rather than their own. And who are these others and what have they done? They are those who have money to sell, in contradistinction to those who have commodities to sell, and who want to see money dear that prices of commodities may be low, in short, the moneyed cliques of the world. They may be short-sighted in wishing this; it may be that dear money will, by ruining their debtors, react injuriously upon them and prove to be but a fool's paradise; but it is a dear dollar they have worked for, and, while the attention of the producing classes has been taken up in the creation of wealth, they have worked out their plans with this end most successfully.

As a result, we have had money growing dearer for a quarter of a century, a movement that has been especially rapid during the past four years, dating from the close of the Indian mints to free silver coinage and the suspension of our purchases of silver under the Sherman Act. And as money has grown dearer the products of labor have grown cheaper. So it has been that it has taken a greater and greater quantity of the products of labor to purchase a fixed amount of money and as all debts are payable in fixed amounts of money they have grown commensurately burdensome. Producers of wealth have had to sell more and more of the products of their labor year after year, to get the fixed quantity of money required to pay fixed interest charges, and consequently, just as money has grown dearer, the quantity of produce they could sell and appropriate for their own uses has grown less. So the result has been to fill the purses of the recipients of these dear dollars, who receive just as many dollars, though living has become cheaper and thus are enabled to save more, to increase their investments, to loan more money, to keep their pocket-books fatter. On the other hand, the purses of those who have had to provide these dear dollars have grown slimmer, for having been obliged to sell a greater part of the product of their labor to get these dear dollars there has been a smaller part to sell and, as we have said, appropriate to their own uses, namely, the payment of wages and profits which latter are really the wages of labor spent in the organization of industry.

Of course, profits have fallen away or been wiped out and so also have wages fallen, often disappearing altogether in the gulf of enforced idleness. And this has reacted on the creditor classes, on the small investors, who, it may be said, reap, on the whole, no gain from dear money and falling prices. They are preyed upon by the speculative cliques just as are the producing classes, though in a different way. But, as we have said, the falling away of prices and hence of profits reacts injuriously on the small investors. It does so in two ways. First, it leads to default in interest and dividends, and a sacrifice in greater or lesser degree of the principal of investments. From such losses there is no escape, for if producers, it makes no difference whether farmers or manufacturers, cannot earn interest on borrowed money, they cannot go on paying interest forever. So default must come.

Nor is money invested in the bonds and stocks of transportation companies any more secure. The earnings of these companies are dependent on the freights and passengers to be transported. When production becomes unremunerative and mills, factories and mines curtail their output, the demand on our railroads for transportation must of necessity fall off, not only for freights but for passengers as well, for it is the sale of the products of mill and mine, the movement of freights that leads to the

movement of passengers. And this must be followed by decreased earnings and inability to pay interest or dividends on one series of securities after another. The holders of these securities must, of necessity, suffer loss. The result is that investors grow chary of a great range of investments. They hesitate to loan to those engaged in productive enterprises, they seek to invest their moneys in the narrow circle of government, state and municipal loans. The result of this competition is a fall in interest rates, and here it is again that falling prices, resulting in an undermining of profits and a driving of money to seek investment in a narrowing circle of securities, with the consequent competition and fall in interest rates, reacts injuriously upon the small investor.

Yet from this fall in interest rates the producer of wealth, the man baffling with nature, reaps no benefit, for it does not reach him. Indeed, the rate of interest which he must pay for money rises as prices fall, for when prices are falling the loaners of money do not consider him a good risk and shun him.

So the fall in prices has left our producing classes with empty purses, and an empty purse neither breeds contentment nor lends an atmosphere of cheerfulness to one's surroundings. On the contrary, it is the sure precursor of discontent and unrest. Yet, after a perusal of our metropolitan press, the toiler with hand and brain, the toiler who has bridled nature only that the forces of nature that he has subjugated to his will may be used for some other's gain, well may stop and ask himself: Have I not the right to complain of an empty purse? Those with wealth, those whose purses are being filled at his expense through the subtle workings of a dear dollar, or rather those that wealth hires to plead its case, answer promptly, no. To the complaint of an empty purse, no heed should be paid, writes "Matthew Marshall," the financial critic of the *New York Sun*, a critic of much more than ordinary ability. And then he fortifies himself behind the assertion that "whoever has labor or the fruits of labor to sell, or who enjoys good credit with lenders, can obtain all the money he is entitled to, and no others are entitled to any at all."

This is plausible, but it is begging the question. It is right that everyone should have to work to fill his purse. Of this we do not complain. It is because it is not so that we do complain. It is because men do not, under existing conditions, reap the reward of their toil that we complain, because the income of the few living in idleness, the drones of society, has been increased by an unjust law of man, increased at the expense of the creators of wealth. That men should live out the later years of their lives in idleness, living on the savings of past industry, or that men should live upon the bounty of others, freely given them, we do not complain. A man has a right to spend his earnings as he sees fit, ever provided that he does not use them in a way to bring injury to his fellows. But when men are permitted to fill their purses by preying upon the fruits of other's toil, to take the wealth produced by others without so much as saying "by your leave," we do complain. It is because our monetary system permits just this that we do complain. It is because it makes it possible for men to fill their purses by emptying the purses of the producers of wealth.

In that men should have to work to fill their purses there is no injustice. Dollars are for sale just as much as corn and bread, and it is right that, in order to get dollars, we should have to buy them, just as it is right that we should have to buy bread. But there is great injustice in making dollars so dear that men cannot buy them, at least a sufficient number of them to pay indebtedness and leave something in their purses besides, just as there would be great injustice in manipulating the price of bread and making it so dear that men could not buy it, or at least enough of it to satisfy the cravings of hunger. And this is just what we have done with dollars, just what we complain of. The dollar is made so dear that the producer cannot sell all the wealth

he can create for a sum sufficient to meet his indebtedness and fill his purse. Indebtedness must be paid and so the purse must remain empty. And of a purse empty from this cause, empty not because he is an idler, not because he is unwilling to work for the dollar, but because the dollar has been made so dear and prices so low that he cannot produce sufficient produce to buy enough dollars to fill his purse after paying his indebtedness, the honest toiler has a right to complain.

We are told that whoever has labor, or the fruits of labor to sell need not have an empty purse. But man's labor will not yield him more than a certain result, the fruits of labor which he can sell are of necessity limited, in the aggregate, to his capacity to produce, and so it may be that, if the dollar is dear, the producer cannot fill his purse, that the number of dollars necessary to pay his debts and fill his purse will cost more than he can pay, for his ability to buy dollars must be limited by the labor or fruits of labor he has to sell. He cannot buy more dollars than he has the means to pay for, and this means is limited by the value of his labor and the products of his labor which he can sell. So shrinking values and falling wages must restrict man's ability to buy dollars, and as the number of dollars required to pay debts does not shrink likewise the producer's share in the product of his labor must diminish with falling prices while the share of the creditor will increase. And this taking from the profits of industry leads to curtailed production and industrial stagnation, a state in which men must have difficulty in disposing of their labor, for then there is not labor enough to go round and numbers must, in consequence, be thrown into enforced idleness. So it is that many are the men with labor to sell and yet empty purses.

So also we are told that the man who enjoys good credit with the money lenders can obtain all the money he needs. But what is it that gives good credit with the lender? Obviously the unquestioned ability to pay one's debts, the possession of property, readily convertible into cash, in excess of one's debts. Let us, then, do something which will make property less readily salable and hence convertible into money and we strike one blow at credit; let us do something that will undermine the value of property, and we strike another. So, when we make the dollar dear and undermine prices, we undermine the credit of producers, not only because the dear dollar causes a shrinkage in the value of the property upon which the borrower must rely for the payment of his indebtedness, but because the very fact of the shrinkage leads to a curtailed demand for property, an indisposition on the part of those with money to purchase, and hence increased difficulty to realize upon property. And this hesitancy on the part of those with money is only natural. They hesitate to invest money in property that is shrinking in value. They fear it will go on shrinking and subject them to loss, and so it is that they can only be tempted to buy by a further concession of price. The result is that a fall in prices in one direction leads to a fall in another, all of which is sure to undermine credit, lead to the calling of loans by anxious lenders, and this, driving debtors to dispose of their property at perhaps most inopportune times, cannot but force a further retrocession of prices. And so it goes, one fall in prices leading up to another.

So we find that the dear dollar attacks the credit of the producer. It undermines not only the ability of men to buy dollars, but their ability to borrow dollars. It is this unjust dollar, a dollar that deprives the producers of the fruits of their toil, that is the cause of so many empty purses. And of a purse empty from such a cause man has the right to complain.

Yet the pens that do the bidding of those who profit from these conditions write of the man who complains of an empty purse as a worthless idler. The one sentiment we hear is: *Avaunt, ye complainer of an empty purse.*

Friendship that flames goes out in a flash.

THE TROUBLESOME GREENBACKS.

OUR greenbacks give no trouble to those who make use of them, but for this very reason they are proving most troublesome to those who would do away with them. If the greenbacks made an unsatisfactory or unsafe currency; if their use subjected one to loss; if they passed at a discount at a distance from New York and San Francisco, where they are alone redeemable; in short, if they were not everywhere current and of equal value, possessing the attributes of a medium of exchange to everyone's satisfaction, the only complaint being that of their scarcity, the opposition to their retirement would not be so great. But though it would be folly to assert that our greenbacks make a perfect currency, they do satisfactorily fill the demands for currency, so far as they go, and there is no demand of moment among our producing classes for their retirement.

This demand comes almost solely from those who would substitute a bank currency for the paper money issued by the National Government. This would be a costly proceeding, for it would entail the issue, in one way or another, of some \$800,000,000 of interest-bearing bonds, which issue, even if it could be placed at 3 per cent., would entail on the Government an annual interest charge of \$24,000,000. To warrant such an expense, the gain to be derived from driving our national paper currency out of circulation and building a new monetary system on the idea that the banks are better fitted to provide a paper currency than the Government, that the creatures of the Government can provide a safer and more satisfactory currency than their creator, would have to be great.

And what is this gain to the public that it is asserted would come from the retirement of our national and the substitution of a bank currency? It is greater stability to our currency.

Now, the first requisite of a perfect currency is stability in value, stability in purchasing power, a requisite never yet reached by any system ever put into practice on the face of the globe. Monetary systems have been measurably satisfactory as they have approached this requirement of a perfect currency; they have been unsatisfactory as they have failed to meet it. It is because of failure to insure stability in purchasing power that the single gold standard has failed miserably as a basis for a satisfactory currency system; it is because bimetallism has insured a comparatively stable scale by which to measure values, and, in the nature of things, must provide a scale less liable to fluctuations than one based on the changeable value of gold, that bimetallism is preferable to gold monometallism.

That a scale of values based on two commodities, gold and silver, is less liable to fluctuations than a scale based on one is quite apparent, for when we tie two metals together we must minimize the fluctuations that the two metals would be subject to separately. The working of this law, the bimetallic law, is very simple. It rests on the fact that when men are given a choice between two kinds of coin in the settlement of their debts they will use the cheaper. The result is that under bimetallism the brunt of the demand for money must ever fall on the cheaper money. Consequently the fall in the metal, the supply of which may be momentarily in excess, must be much less than it would be if the demand for money was not stripped from the dearer and transferred to the cheaper. This transference must result in causing the metal that has lost the demand for money to fall in value, while the throwing of the increased demand on the cheaper must check its fall. Thus the two metals are kept together and all fluctuations in values minimized, the extremes being ground off, and in this way a more satisfactory scale of values is given than a scale based on either gold or silver. That the resulting scale is perfect it would be folly to assert, that it does not more nearly approach perfection than a scale based on either gold or silver alone it would be folly to deny.

To exemplify the workings of bimetallism we have but to

turn back to the gold discoveries of California and Australia. These discoveries were followed by an unparalleled production of gold. Unequalled amounts were added to the world's stock of gold coin; but, through the medium of bimetallic France, the resulting increase of money was spread over the whole world, the increase being felt in silver-using as well as gold-using countries. This was brought about by a displacing of the silver coin in France and the export of the silver thus set free to the Orient. The French people imported and coined gold, they exported silver. As a result all great disturbance in the relative values of the currencies of gold-using and silver-using countries was prevented. Silver became more plentiful in silver-using countries as gold became more plentiful in gold-using countries. The result was that silver was cheapened as the result of the gold discoveries of California even as gold was cheapened. If there had been no bimetallic countries, all the gold product would have simply resulted in swelling the money stock of the gold using countries, and caused a greater fall in the value of gold than actually took place. But, as there were bimetallic countries, a broadened demand was made for gold and the excess of gold was drawn off to bimetallic France, where room was made for it by the export of silver, the result of which was that the fall in gold was much less than it would have been if this outlet had not been open, and the effect of the increased production of gold had been confined to the gold-using countries in place of being spread over the whole world.

So it is that a system of bimetallism is calculated to smooth down the extreme fluctuations in value to which gold and silver are subject,—by building up an increased demand for either metal along with an increased supply, and, at the same time, leading to a decreased demand for the other, thus minimizing the effect of the increased supply on the price of that metal subject to the increase by spreading the effect over both metals. A decreased demand serves to cheapen the metal that would not otherwise be cheapened, while an increased demand serves to offset to a degree the fall in price of the other metal consequent on an increased supply. What an increased supply does for one metal, a decreased demand does for the other, and thus the movement in price of the two metals under bimetallism is equalized, and a more stable scale of values thus secured. An invariable scale of values is not secured, but one less liable to fluctuations than a scale based on either silver or gold alone.

Of course there is just one thing that can give us a really stable currency, a dollar that will be an absolute measure of values and have just as great a purchasing power at one time as another, and that is a currency that can be freely and promptly expanded or contracted in response to the demands of trade, a currency that will grow in volume just as fast as the demand for money grows, but no faster. And it is asserted that we can realize this by retiring all issues of national paper currency and permitting the banks to substitute their own currency.

The banks, we are told, could serve the public better than the Government because they could expand and contract the supply of currency according to the demand for it. We will grant that the banks could serve the public with a better currency, a more stable currency, than is now provided by the Government, though not better than the Government could provide. But could is a very different thing from would. The banks, with full control over the issue of paper money, could provide us with a model currency, could expand and contract their issues so as to give us a currency that would be the model of stability, but they wouldn't. They would not, because selfishness plays a part in men's natures. We cannot count on its absence. We cannot successfully build a currency system on the supposition that the managers of our banks are better or more superior to temptation than their fellows. They are not. So place the issue of paper currency in the hands of the banks and we will have a flexible currency surely, a currency that will be

freely expanded and contracted, but we will have expansion and contraction such as will serve the selfish ends of the speculative cliques behind the banks, not the interests of the public, expansion and contraction not in accord with the demands of trade and industry, but of speculation.

So the promised increased stability of our currency, from handing over the sovereign power to fix our scale of values from the Government to the banks would result in increased instability. The burdening of ourselves with an indebtedness of \$800,000,000, and an annual interest charge of \$24,000,000 to bring this about, would profit us nothing. Indeed, it would amount to paying \$24,000,000 a year that we might subject ourselves to the advantages of having interested parties tamper with our scale of values and so regulate it from time to time as to result in a tax that would amount to confiscation of the fruits of the toil of the industrious for the profit of the speculative cliques. This tax those behind the banks could effectually impose by expansion and contraction of our currency, by an inflation and depression of prices, by a wrecking of the industrious through contraction and depression, a purchase of their property at wreckage prices, and a building up of the wrecked property by expansion and inflation until enabled to dispose of the property to a new set of hopeful producers to be preyed on in turn.

As well might we pay our coal dealers \$24,000,000 a year to tamper with their scales as to pay \$24,000,000 a year so as to make it possible for our banks to tamper with our scale of values. The principle involved in both cases would be the same, but the injuries that would be inflicted by paying \$24,000,000 that our scale of values might be tampered with would be many-fold greater than those that would be inflicted by paying our coal dealers \$24,000,000 to tamper with their scales.

But there is something besides this false stability that is put forward as a reason for the retirement of our national currency and the substitution of bank paper. That is that the Government can exercise no control over the export of gold, but that the banks could and would. As a matter of fact, the banks could not, if entrusted with the issue of all our paper currency, check the export of gold and prevent the drain on their reserves. They could not, for the attempt would lead to their bankruptcy; they would not seriously strive to maintain gold payments, for suspension of gold payments would be most welcome to them, for such suspension would leave them untrammelled to expand or contract their issues at will.

So long as they strove to protect the gold in their vaults and provide for the redemption of their notes they would have to regulate their issues by the movement of gold. When gold was drained away from them they would have to follow after the pattern of the Bank of England and contract their loans; this with a view to raising interest rates and depressing prices in the hope of tempting our foreign creditors to loan us the gold we find it inconvenient to pay, or to take our products in the place of gold. We need not stop to point out why such efforts would fail, further than to recall that our position is vastly different from that of England, that she is a creditor and we a debtor nation, that as we depress prices we increase the burden of our debt, that an increase in the quantity of exports brought about by a fall in prices is sure to be neutralized in large measure by the diminished debt-paying power and, finally, that falling prices cut into the profits of industry, cut into the earnings of our railroads, into their ability to earn and pay dividends, and this, causing a decline in the value of all such securities, cannot fail to cause our foreign creditors to hesitate to invest in such securities, which feeling, on the part of foreign investors, is calculated to accentuate the demand for gold and the export of that metal.

The retirement of our national paper currency and the substitution of bank currency would not, therefore, put the banks into a position to prevent gold exports. Such transference of the issue and control over our paper currency would scarce be

accomplished ere the banks suspended gold payments. They could not prevent such suspension if they would, they would not if they could. The issues of national currency being retired, the Government could not be called upon for gold. The banks having undertaken the issue of a currency redeemable in gold, this demand would fall upon the banks. The exporter of gold who now draws gold out of the National Treasury by the presentation of greenbacks and treasury notes for redemption, would draw gold out of the banks by the presentation of bank notes. So the demand for gold for export would fall on the banks, their reserves would be drained down, and such drain could only be checked by putting a stop to gold exports.

The ability of the banks to maintain gold payments would then be dependent on their ability to prevent gold exports. And this they could not do. Their one weapon to accomplish this, namely, contraction, a forcing up of interest rates and a forcing down of prices, would be futile, for though a forcing down of prices would be prone to lead to an increase in the quantity of exports, it is questionable whether such increase in quantity would result in an increase in values and debt-paying power, and a forcing up of interest rates, when accompanied by an undermining of the solvency of debtors, would not tempt our foreign creditors to loan us the gold owing them. The attraction of high interest rates would be offset by the fear of losing the principal, and so the forcing up of interest rates and the forcing down of prices through contraction would be prone to fail of its purpose. But not only would the contraction of our currency prove futile as a remedy for gold exports, but the banks would fear to apply it. The only possible weapon they have by which to prevent gold exports, they would be afraid to use, for contraction and the resulting shrinkage of values would undermine the solvency of their debtors, and this, in turn, the solvency of the banks.

Moreover, the banks, once the control of our paper currency in their hands, would invite, rather than oppose, suspension of gold payments, for gold payments suspended, they would be free to expand and contract the currency as they saw fit, they would have reached that desiderata, namely a currency monopoly, that would enable them to lengthen or shorten the scale of values at will, and by manipulating such scale of values, and hence prices, make it possible for the speculative cliques to reap the profits of others' toil.

But there is no inclination on the part of our producing classes to enter the trap set for them, to put themselves at the abject mercy of the speculative cliques by handing over the issue and control over our paper money to the banks. They have not been enraptured by the demand for the retirement of our national currency, the substitution of bank paper, and the building up of a currency monopoly even though deceptively hidden and put forward as a demand that the Government be taken out of the banking business. Our producing classes will not so much as hear of the retirement of our greenbacks, the first step to a substitution of a bank currency.

So the strivers after a currency monopoly are in a dilemma. But they see a roundabout way to bring about the retirement of our greenbacks by locking them up in the Treasury vaults. This can be accomplished in just two ways—first, the collection of revenues beyond the needs of the Government and the locking up of the surplus, and second, the borrowing of gold to replenish a depleted gold reserve, and the retirement from circulation of the greenbacks presented for redemption, not by cancelling them, but by piling them up in the Treasury. Now, the pending tariff bill is framed, purposely or otherwise, to accomplish contraction in the first of these ways; to put contraction in force by the second of the two ways needs, under the rulings of our Treasury Department, no additional legislation.

Mr. Dingley indignantly denies that he has ever thought of the tariff as a means of effecting currency contraction, though how he can make such denial harmonize with his former asser-

tions is hard to see. He further asserts that the passage of a tariff bill such as will yield sufficient revenue to meet the expenses of the Government will obviate the further need of the Government going into the money market as a borrower, and that no piling up of currency in the Treasury as the result of another bond issue is either aimed at or anticipated.

Such conviction is not warranted by the facts, for the deficits in revenues played but a secondary part in bringing about the bond issues of Mr. Cleveland's administration. The primary cause of these bond issues was the export of gold, and the resulting drain upon and depletion of the treasury gold reserve. And gold exports were not brought about by a deficit in revenues; they will not be prevented by building up the revenues. They were brought about by one great cause resolving itself into two. That cause was the shrinkage in values, caused by our discarding silver as a money metal available for purposes of redemptions, and throwing a double burden upon gold, which we did in the autumn of 1891, when Mr. Foster, as Secretary of the Treasury, declared it would be a breach of faith to refuse to redeem our treasury notes, which had theretofore been looked upon as silver certificates, in gold on demand, a shrinkage of values that was accentuated by the closing of the Indian mints to free silver coinage in June, 1893, and the repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman act, and our suspension of silver purchases in the autumn of the same year.

And this shrinkage in values, which, as measured by our exports, has come to quite 30 per cent., resulted in the export of gold for two reasons. First, it cut into the debt-paying power of our exports by 30 per cent., increased the quantity of produce required to be shipped abroad to meet our foreign indebtedness, by almost a third, and second, and this is not the least important, this fall in prices undermined the profits of industry, curtailed the earnings of our railroads, and this caused our foreign creditors to look askance at our securities. They had been in the habit of largely reinvesting the interest on their loans to us as such interest came due. But with our failing prosperity, brought about by falling prices, they hesitated to continue in such a course, and, refusing to take our securities in settlement of interest charges, demanded gold. And so gold went, and the only thing that served to check, even temporarily, its going, was the issue of Government bonds from time to time which our foreign creditors were willing to take in place of gold.

Such were the prime causes for the drain of gold during the greater part of Mr. Cleveland's administration. They are still existent, though for some months they have been overshadowed by abnormally large exports of merchandise, made possible by the failures of the crops in India and Australia.

We have, then, reason to fear a continued drain of gold for export, a depletion of our gold reserve followed by a bond issue and, of necessity, a contraction of our currency by piling up the borrowed money in the Treasury. Mr. Dingley scouts such fears as groundless, ridicules them. He may be right; but if, indeed, the aim of the tariff is in no way to bring about a retirement of our troublesome greenbacks, and he is firm in his belief that a deficit in revenues is the one and only cause of the bond issues of the past few years, he can have no objection to an amendment to the tariff bill prohibiting the issue of bonds save under explicit authorization of Congress. His acceptance of such an amendment would be an evidence of good faith; refusal to accept it would prove him to lack faith in his own remedy, prove that his indignant words of denial that the tariff is designed, in part, as a measure of greenback retirement, are mere words of deception. Let such a test be put to Mr. Dingley and his fellow Republicans, let the Senate proffer such an amendment for his acceptance or rejection.

An obstinate man does not hold opinions, but they hold him.—*Pope*.

GOLD EXPORTS AND OUR FOREIGN TRADE.

THE export of gold is never a pleasant sign, for it means that we are holding the prices of our products too high to attract foreign purchasers; that they are taking our gold because they can buy more with it from others than they can from us, and that we must put down our prices or suffer the export of our gold. And we have put down prices so often during the past few years, only to find our competitors cut prices still lower and gold exports resumed, that we almost despair of putting a stop to gold exports by putting down prices.

The path we have followed seems hopeless. Yet how can we avoid it? When our competitors cut prices our mutual customers, the British, will be prompt to avail of the reduction; they will buy all that they can get at the reduced price, and, of course, buy correspondingly less of us. What is more, we owe the British people something like \$200,000,000 a year as interest. If with this \$200,000,000 they can buy as much produce, as much grain and cotton in America as they can anywhere else, they will use this interest money to buy our products, and will not call upon us to pay it in gold. They do not want gold for gold's sake; they want gold for what gold will buy, and if it will buy more from us than from other peoples having such produce for sale as they have need of, they will take our products in payment of interest charges in preference to gold.

But if this \$200,000,000 will buy more produce from others than from us, our creditors will demand payment in gold, take gold from us, and use it to buy produce of others. And gold they will take just so long as they can use it to better advantage with others than with us. Of course, this taking of gold from us and use of it to buy products of our competitors must lead to an increased demand for the products of our competitors, and thus have a tendency to raise the prices they ask, while at the same time resulting in a diminished demand for our products, it must cause the prices for our products to fall, thus lead to an equalization of prices, and take away the advantage gained by our creditors by taking gold from us and spending it elsewhere.

Thus, by putting down prices we can succeed in checking the export of gold. But if our competitors further reduce prices we must at once cut prices in equal degree or go through the same operation over again. And it is this operation that we have been going through again and again of late years until at last we have reached a point where prices are so low as to make it well nigh impossible for us to scrape enough produce together to meet our debts. And, at the same time, our creditors have become more insistent, more insistent on prompt and full payment of interest and less inclined to take new evidences of indebtedness in settlement, or rather postponement, of interest charges, as they have done so largely in the past. So we have been finally brought to the point where we despair of preventing gold exports by putting down prices, where hopeless ruin stares us in the face, where we can only prevent the suspension of gold payments by borrowing, and that on the credit of the National Government.

And yet we ignore the cause that has put us into this dire predicament, the cause that has made it possible for our competitors to undersell us and driven us to the brink of ruin. That cause is none other than the bounty on exports from silver-using and paper-using countries to gold-using Europe, that we have helped build up for the enjoyment of our competitors. That bounty is the premium on gold as measured by silver, a premium that we have helped to make by closing our mints to silver, a premium that we can take away by re-opening our mints. Just as this bounty has risen, and it has risen almost constantly for a quarter of a century and most markedly during the past four years, our competitors, enjoying it, have been able to cut down prices. And from such cuts in gold prices they have suffered nothing, for the bounty received has made up to them the amount

of the cut, so that they get just as much for their products as ever. But our producers, having to meet these cuts, and enjoying no bounty, have suffered greatly; they have been driven to, if not over, the brink of bankruptcy.

And now we have gold exports again, proving that the fall in prices that has driven our people to the brink of bankruptcy has not reached bottom, that a further cut in prices must come that will drive those of our producing classes who have succeeded in keeping their heads above water over the brink of financial disaster, proving that we have not yet reached the low level of prices demanded by the gold standard.

But men ignore this, they are given to viewing things in a superficial way and jumping at conclusions. So it is that we have the export of gold attributed to the tariff. And the prospect of a general raising of tariff duties has led to largely increased importations, and no doubt had its part in stimulating gold exports. But it is a mistake to view the export of gold by the movements of merchandise during one short month. Our international dealings are not cash transactions. We do not pay for importations within the month of importation, nor are we paid for our exports ere they reach their destination. Settlements are spread over a period of several months. Indeed, on importations, a credit of six or eight months is often given.

So the movement of merchandise in one month should not be taken as a guide to the movement of gold within the same month. Yet it is on a basis of the merchandise trade balance of April that we find the movement of gold discussed. It is pointed out that for that month our imports came to a value of \$101,305,131, and our exports to a value of \$77,725,700, thus leaving an adverse balance of \$23,579,431. Here certainly, we are told, is ample explanation of the export of gold; for have we not bought \$23,000,000 worth of products more than we have sold? But during the ten months ending April 30th, of the present fiscal year, we sold merchandise in excess of our purchases to the value of \$299,811,994, and if we add to this our net exports of silver, we have a total favorable balance of \$325,000,000. And as an offset to this, what have we received? \$58,000,000 of gold. Nothing else, save it be a quittance of the sums due our foreign creditors as interest on our debt, due foreign ship owners as freights, an offset of the sums spent by Americans abroad. So it appears on the surface that Europe has run into our debt since the first of the fiscal year, or since June 30th last, by \$267,000,000, and should be shipping us gold. She has not really run into our debt by any such sum, for it must have taken a sum of approximately this amount to pay the indebtedness constantly accruing against us, but which does not appear in our trade returns.

And now, one word more to those who attribute the export of gold to abnormally large imports incident on a change in customs rates. It is quite true that for the month of April, imports were abnormally large, but for the whole ten months of the fiscal year they have been abnormally small. While imports for April were nearly \$43,000,000 greater than for April of the year before, the total imports for the first ten months of the fiscal year 1897 were actually smaller by \$66,000,000 than the imports during the corresponding months of 1896. So the exports of gold cannot rightly be attributable to increased importations stimulated by the prospect of tariff changes. It is attributable to a general, not special cause, and that general cause is the fall in prices and unprofitableness of industry—a fall in prices that has seriously curtailed the debt-paying power of our exports, an unprofitableness of industry that has seriously impaired the value of our securities and their acceptability to our foreign creditors as part payment of our indebtedness.

People ridicule learned women and dislike even women who are well informed, probably because it is considered impolite to put so many ignorant men to shame.—Goethe.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

SETTING tables, washing dishes,
Sweeping rooms and making bread,
Dusting books and sewing buttons,
Smoothing now a curly head.

Making, mending little garments,
In a mother's deftest style,—
Washing little hands and faces
Planning *something* all the while.

Darning stockings, telling stories
To the group about her knee;
Searching for lost gloves and kerchiefs,
Nobody can find but she.

Trimming lamps, or hearing lessons,
Putting this and that in place,—
Tired feet and busy fingers,
Giving home its nameless grace.

Solving some domestic problem,
As a housewife only can,
(When the way and means seem wanting),
With a skill unknown to man.

Folding tiny hands together,—
Teaching infant lips to pray,
Singing cradle hymns so softly,—
Mother's work ends not with day.

—By Lucy Randolph Fleming.

* *

With regard to women surgeons, one fact is of interest. At the New Hospital for Women, in Euston Road, London, where all the doctors are women, there have only been two deaths out of ninety major operations.

* *

If you have "seen better days," keep the fact to yourself, and your chance for picking up better days again will be all the brighter. Don't interlard to-day's doings with mouldy slices of past glory. Who cares if the landlady who rents rooms formerly rented houses? We are interested solely in the rooms. The circumstance that our dressmaker used to go to the opera herself instead of, as now, merely sending the product of her brain and fingers, is of little moment compared with the swing of a new-style skirt, or an inch, this way or that, in jewelled trimming. In fact, if she persist, between the pins, in trying to dazzle us with by-gones, we would infinitely prefer a modiste with a less luminous past.

* *

Dr. Preyer, of Germany, author of "Infant Mind," a book for mothers, and whose observations of children are known all over the world, protests against mothers leaving their children so much in the hands of other persons. The nurse should not be permitted to take the place of the mother. Dr. Preyer states decidedly that the controlling supervision of the physical development in her child is the most important task of the young mother, because upon this development the child's whole future, intellectual and moral, life will depend.

* *

Thirty-seven years before her death, Jenny Lind abandoned the operatic stage. The motive of the great renunciation was purely a spiritual one. Every appearance had been a dramatic triumph, and her pecuniary reward was large; yet she never regretted her decision. Her motive is made clear by the following narrative:

Once an English friend found her sitting on the steps of a bathing-machine on the sands, with a Lutheran Bible on her knee, looking out into the glory of a sunset that was shining over the waters.

They talked, and the talk drew near to the inevitable question: "O Madame Goldschmidt, how was it that you ever came to abandon the stage, at the very height of your success?"

"When every day," was the quiet answer, "it made me think less of this (laying a finger on the Bible), and nothing at all of that (pointing to the sunset), what else could I do?"

The Bible and the sunset! These were what she always needed! These were what she wished at all cost to preserve. Each of them is closed and barred to all who cannot bring to them a certain spiritual tone; and it was this tone which she found it impossible to preserve amid the disquieting distractions of an actress's life. There was nothing morbid or morose in this judgment of hers.

It was not that she withdrew from man's service the gifts

entrusted to her for his use; for she always felt that her best gift, that of song, gained, rather than lost, by her sacrifice of the stage. She was not, then, sacrificing her proper mission for the sake of the woman's need of relief and peace; rather she felt herself to be paying the price that her full artistic mission to mankind asked of her; and her whole after-life seemed to justify the decision.

There are few careers which have a more fascinating tale to tell of rapid and brilliant passage out of darkness into triumph, out of poverty and harshness into a blaze of glory. But there is no career which can leave a deeper impression of the entire supremacy of the spiritual motive over all that the world can bring.

She is given everything; and yet all is as nothing if it does not leave her free to sit alone by the seashore and to look at the sunset and at the old Lutheran Bible with the pure eyes that can see God.

A CHAPTER ABOUT CHILDREN.

SUNDAY morning while I'm dozing
Late beyond the wonted hour,
Seeking rest from week-day strivings
Stern, which brain and nerve devour,

Comes a ray of human sunshine,
Stealing softly to my bed,
Reaching up on little tip-toes,
Tugging gently at the spread.

"Papa, p'se wate up for baby."
Sounds like angel notes, I vow,
Followed by the worldly message;
"Becksus soon be ready now."

Flinging quickly back the covers,
Grabbing up the dimpled dear,
Sitting her in bed beside me—
Soft curls tangled round my ear.

Soon forgotten all my dreamings,
All the world's vain show and pomp,
Even breakfast goes unheeded
In that royal morning romp.

When I sleep my last long slumber,
All I ask to seal my bliss
Is that somewhere I'll be wakened
By an angel voice like this.

—Charles Nelson Johnson.

* *

The backward child may be deficient in application, not in capacity. Should this be so, arouse him, not by a hail-storm of nagging or a downpour of fault-finding, but by a system of rewards lovingly adapted to his disposition and character. Suffer no discouragement to creep into your own heart concerning him, and do not allow him or her to feel that there is reason for any doubt about reaching the top of the ladder in due season. The top, mind, not the middle rounds—anyone can reach these. Set a definite aim before your child; cultivate a high and noble ideal, but be willing to climb slowly. Haste is at the root of many a failure—haste and lack of thoroughness as one goes on.

With a tender regret for lost opportunities, who has not sometimes seen a mature woman timid, self-conscious, handicapped from youth to gray hairs simply because she was a "backward" child once, and, therefore, was snubbed and ridiculed, and pushed into the background, while her sisters and brothers bore off the honors and were the objects of universal estimation? A wrong for life was done to the little daughter and her little daughter may, perhaps, suffer from the same old mistake, for wrongs are far-reaching. Be pitiful and just to the backward child in your home.

* *

One of the worst habits young people form is that of leaning forward too much while at work or study. It is much less tiresome and more healthy to sit erect. The round-shouldered, hollow-chested, and almost deformed persons one meets every day could have avoided all the bad results from which they now suffer had they always kept the body erect, the chest full, and the shoulders thrown back.

A simple rule is, that if the head is not thrown forward, but is held erect, the shoulders will drop back to their natural position, giving the lungs full play. The injury done by the carelessness in this respect is that by compressing the lungs and preventing their full and natural action lung diseases ensue.

In looking over some stories written and sent by children to the young people's department of a paper, some curious points were noticed. Part of the stories were wildly imaginative. The heroes of them went through experiences that out-gullivered Gulliver. But after all their adventures the manikins always came home safely, laden with glory and trophies, to relate their valorous deeds and wonderful experiences to admiring hearers.

The child story-teller loves a satisfactory ending. He has no patience for the ill-contrived methods which bring the hero through one experience only to plunge him into another, and leave him there to get out as best he may. The princess and the knight must marry and live happily ever after, enjoying the happiness attending such glorious actions, before the story ends. Jack must finish all his giants and get home to supper before we leave him.

In the more humble tales of every-day life a strong point is the little author's sincere belief in the absolute working of a righteous law. The good boy invariably comes out triumphant, and is rewarded with kisses and cakes. The bad boy is as surely brought to confusion. The career of the wicked youth, who defies authority, will not learn his lessons, quarrels with smaller boys or takes his father's gun without leave, is cut short by an opportune policeman, by the paternal switch, or, perhaps, by a fall out of the boat, or again, by the measles. Somehow the childish author shows that, in his opinion, the law should be satisfied and the wrong-doer should suffer.

It is quite possible that these little writers have behaved badly or missed lessons occasionally themselves. But the artless confessions of their moral tales convince us that they do not do it without pricks of conscience. In the depths of their naughty little hearts they are quite sure that they deserved the fate which they so ingenuously deal out to the doughty heroes of their stories.

IS IT TO BE PEACE OR WAR?

The Crushing of the Greeks and the Rivalry of the Powers—Smothering Old Sparks of War and Fanning New into Flame—Burning of the Charity Bazaar—Was it Incendiary?

(From our special correspondent.)

PARIS, May 7, 1897.

SO far as human foresight is reliable, the European situation appears to be much more "mix'd" than it was when the Crescent and the Cross began hostilities.

Virtually, the Greco-Turkish conflict is at end, and, as never could have been in doubt among people not blinded by partialities or antipathies, that end is the utter discomfiture of the Hellenes. Out-numbered in the proportion of from three to five to one by an enemy commanded by a German renegade of great ability, with a staff of first-class German officers, the Greeks with young troops, with inexperienced chiefs, ought to have expected the fatal result of a disastrous defeat. They were wrong in provoking a war, this no one can deny; but did they provoke that war without some outside encouragement, without some secret promise of eventual aid on the part of some member of the so-called European concert? I presume to think not, and I presume also to add that this aid will, eventually, be forthcoming, but from what quarter I do not venture to predict, although there be some reason to suspect that either England or Russia, perhaps both, will step in, at the opportune moment, and say to the victorious Osmanli, thus far shall ye go, but no farther, the which being said and insisted upon, the real era of international difficulties will commence seriously. All the trouble, all the bloodshed of the last three months might have been avoided, if Europe could have agreed simply to give Crete to the Greeks. But, unfortunately, that mythical question: How to preserve the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, was involved in this simple solution which might open the field to the revindications of other nationalities, and the settlement of these rival claims would possibly occasion a series of antagonisms that must result in a general conflagration and in the upsetting of European equilibrium. No power in Europe has one atom of sympathy with the Sultan and his subjects; pretty nearly all the powers of Europe hanker after a slice of their cake, or are unwilling to permit others than themselves to cut it. So the old ladies, *alias* the diplomats, worked sedulously for the invention of a *modus vivendi* likely to stave off the evil day of a settlement dreaded by all, and which all feel is simply adjourned. We are assured that the ambassadors are harmonious in their views and representations. On paper, such is doubtless the case; in reality, and

whatever be their public profession, they remind one of the Eastern saying about the Poles: "Where there are two Sarmatians there are always three different opinions."

Defiance of the Turk and Cacophony of the Powers.

Germany wanting war, has secured by her unconcealed support of Turkey the services of a most valuable ally should Russia interfere, as she probably will, in any future conflict with the French; Austria craves after Macedonia, Italy Albania, England the recognized possession of Egypt. How, then, is any serious accord imaginable, and if any one or two of the European federation's members bid the Turks to go home, by what means, and on what conditions can their bidding be enforced? The Turks are pig-headed, they are flushed with success, they have 300,000 troops on the European continent, and they have, or fancy to have, the occult support of Germany, and it will require a very big army to drive them out of their conquests. And can that army be collected internationally, or if such an attempt be made, can any given international co-operation be reasonably expected? Judging from European hesitation in the matter of the proposed blockade of the Greek coast, I fear not, and to my thinking, hostilities will continue, notwithstanding all efforts to the contrary, the Turks and their sympathizers being convinced that those efforts will be platonic. Whatever the Osmanli may do, whatever atrocities they may commit, and you will hear of many, Europe will not act, for fear of that general conflagration which, if postponed temporarily, is none the less inevitable. The Sultan believes himself assured of impunity, and that such is his conviction becomes evident in the renewal of his decree of expulsion of all the Greek residents of the Empire, inclusive of the employees of the various Embassies, Consulates and European establishments, commercial and industrial and financial.

The Ambassadors of England, France and Russia protest, but all in vain the Imperial orders are: twenty days of grace, that delay past, out they must go *etiam cum manu militari*. In other days this defiance would have been resented and the Porte would have capitulated; in 1897, the Porte, conscious of European cacophony, sure of support from abroad, is uncompromising and stiff-necked, and neither the Ambassadors nor Chancellories whence come their instructions will venture on more than an "indignant protest." Of course, this abnormal situation cannot last indefinitely, but for the time being it is at once grotesque and intolerable, and one asks where can we seek the last feather that must break the suffering camel's back? Russia, perhaps, may elect to take the initiative of interference, yet by whom and how far will she be sustained? Italy and Austria are vassals of Germany, England's collaboration is not to be surely counted upon, and however much the French may bluster about their "Alliance"—more or less genuine—with Muscovy, it is doubtful whether their Parliament will, in case of need, support their government. Altogether, then, the lookout is not cheerful for lovers of peace and there is little prospect of better times yet awhile.

Gay and Sad Paris.

Not that the French are gravely interested in the Oriental muddles; they generally consider everything, every incident, everybody existing or happening beyond the frontier of Gaul as unimportant and insignificant, not to say, common and unclean. True, since the commencement of Eastern difficulties they have had a plenty of home matters with which to occupy their attention: the *Boeuf Gras* of Shrove Tuesday, the Washerwomen's procession in Mid Lent, the duel of *Il Cavaliere* Pini with an amateur much renowned for his skill as a swordsman, at which tournament assisted some 300 spectators, thirty-five reporters and six cinematographists—result: the amateur slightly wounded in the lip—then came the Clara Ward-Rigo episode—here, by the way, let me remark that if the elopement of the then Princess caused little astonishment; the selection of a travelling companion was a nine days' wonder. And on the top of, or rather as a climax to, these stirring incidents comes the terrible catastrophe of last Tuesday, which has plunged in grief so many of the most aristocratic families of France. Of the harrowing details of that horrible drama you are in possession; it would be idle for me to recount them, but I may add that the tragedy is aggravated by a rumor that it was not a mere accident which caused the burning of the Charity Bazaar; it is hinted that *perhaps* it might have been a retaliation: *six Anarchists were shot on that same morning at Barcelona!* A correlation between those two events is not impossible. I give the version; I do not pretend that it is founded on any fact, but *si non è vero, è ben brevato*.

Z.

BOOK REVIEWS.

MARTHA WASHINGTON. By Anne Hollingsworth Wharton. New York. Charles Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.

The appearance of this series of biographies of Women of Colonial and Revolutionary Times stirs a series of reflections more whimsical than practical, yet, not wholly out of place. They may be regarded as the literary outcome of the (woman's) effort to establish an authentic aristocracy or caste within the pale of the Republic. Human nature has a way of asserting its defiance of artificial codes, social or other, now in this direction and now in that. Yesterday Cæsar and his blue-blooded courtiers were levelled down to the rank and file. To-day Dives proffers his willingness to assume the sceptre, because he owns the gold mine from which crowns are made. To-morrow may see Demos or Lazarus asserting rights of inheritance, long dormant, but not forfeited. Generations pass away and their works bear fruit. Posterity finds itself furnished with a flimsier set of nerves than were owned by the brawny makers of great names. We are fretted too easily by what they would have ignored as trifles. Our lives are wonderfully dwarfed by the pettiness of the concerns of daily life, or seem to be by comparison with one aspect of the grander simplicity of our ancestors' environment. Distance lends enchantment, of course, but, where we have a hundred little worries, they had three respectably big ones, to the great gain of their dignity. The difficulty and tardiness of communication in those enviable good old days gave that majestic serenity, that air of conscious strength and sagacity to the Colonial and Revolutionary type of face, so markedly in contrast with the artificialized type of our time. We are, of course we are, exceedingly smart; they were only wise. We are in a hurry, they went slower, as the seasons roll. They made one grand revolution in a lifetime, that left lasting results; we are never done making little ones, in our systems, customs, business and homes, we are affected with veering of the brain and it has made clock-dials of our faces which now record fractions of seconds where the hour-figures used to suffice. As we are too finicky in make-up to be great or look it, however hard we try, it is open for us to claim that the lees of greatness tincture our blood. If we cannot be the kite we may soar as bits of its tail. The descent of Junius Junior is scarcely so boastable as the ascent of his famous great-grandfather, but, if he is blessed with a feminine order of mind, he will find sweet joy in the contemplation and may develop a chancleer note as he talks that will please him better than singing. Silent pride of pedigree is a splendid moral tonic. When made too much of it is likely to lose virtue and be no better than a mere stimulant, which has a reaction and often causes talk. Overdoses of these things are always risky, they are apt to point contrasts between what seems to be and what is, or what was with what is, or between pretensions and realities.

Hero worship is none the less laudable a cult if it can be followed within the family pale. We can never know the full volume of inspiration great men got from their mothers' recountings of worthy deeds done by the child's fore-fathers. The thing is worn threadbare, but there is more in it than seems. Of woman's mission and woman's sphere we are always learning something new. If her noblest place in the battle of life may seem to some to be in the rear, helping the wounded, cheering the faint, inspiring the fighters with her smile and tear, who will deny her the honors and glories of the trumpeter's office, and the flag emblazoner's, if she likes them? The song Deborah sang in duet with Barak is a case in point, and she did noble service in putting on imperishable record achievements of a military kind in which she was the chief actor. Nobody will grudge modern women the right to celebrate themselves after similar heroic and patriotic service, whether, like Deborah, they do it as judges and prophetesses, or, more humbly, by doing their country the honor of being born of distinguished ancestry. Our new orders of nobility, the Colonial Dames and Daughters of the Revolution, have a perfect right to rejoice in the happy accident which gave them their rank. The degree of loudness with which it should be proclaimed is a mere matter of taste. We recognize an apparently still more exalted order of American women, the Princesses, who modestly veil their rank under the prettier designation, the King's Daughters, a strictly democratic order, in which any good girl may enlist. If the new departure is nothing more than the latest thing in European fad folly, no great harm can come of it. Possibly, it is a cunningly devised scheme to impress the rising generation with the true dignity of republican simplicity by showing them in travesty the

silliness of titular distinctions which cannot, of themselves, confer the only distinction worth having. The curious thing in this effervescence of feminine ambition is its hopelessness. All ambition is supposed to see a winning-post ahead. The male mind makes sure of this before it works itself up for the race. The private soldier may become a general, the plain citizen can become president, but our titled sisters have poetical souls that despise vulgar considerations of the practical in this matter. In the realm of rank and title honors flow from acknowledged headship, and without this supremacy mere assertion of self-given rank amounts to nothing. The logic of facts should move these aristocratic sisterhoods to demand an outlet for their noble ambition, as it may burst if too long pent up. They must compel the American people to admit that it is something between April foolery and midsummer madness for aspiring women to climb from the plane of ladyhood by the steps of D. R. and C. D. (equivalent to the European ranks of countess and duchess) up to goodness knows what giddier eminence, unless the goal of U. S. queenship is provided as the logical climax. There cannot be fewer than three or four hundred honorable Dames who are prepared to demonstrate their fitness in every royal respect to reign over the President and Congress with a grandeur that should dazzle the courts of the old world.

Let currency questions, trade, and tariff die,
But help along our new nobility!

If our potential queen fails to annex a potential president in his bachelor days, we fear a sad fall for her ambition to rule him later. Martha Washington chose the better part when she solaced her young widowhood with the husbandly devotion of the man whose destiny it was to rid his country—at least for a century—of the royalty mania. A recent notice of this book had for its heading "The First Lady of the Land." Precedence there must be in all social intercourse, but etiquette should not be pressed too far, as the tendency now is. Martha Washington was styled Lady Washington during her life, in accord with the usage of the period, but it was with a clear understanding of its modified significance, conferred as a recognition of her husband's greatness and her own graciousness. As a title it does not now exist. Her position justifies the tribute of this well-written, instructive and entertaining biography. It is likelier to hinder than to further whatever there may be of motive to exalt the office of White House Dame above its proper function. These biographies of good women, whose womanly influence was helpful to the best interests of the nation during critical periods, are welcome for their own sake. This volume is specially valuable as throwing a side-light on Washington as husband, and in his home life. Martha is little known, because there is very little of importance to be known about her. A buxom young widow with means and two children, she made an excellent wife and manager for her famous husband. Both had hot tempers, balanced by what seems cold deportment towards each other, though the stately manners of the time account for much of it. The book gathers many details which, if often trivial in themselves, make up a complete and reliable picture of a worthy pair, who get a fair average store of bliss out of matter-of-fact matrimony. In those days the tyranny of the schoolmaster was happily defied, though the dancing-master flourished his sceptre as now. Though political freedom was only won by Washington's sword, the blessed liberty of spelling as one pleased was a universal right, prized by none more dearly than the Conqueror's wife. This letter of hers, printed just as she wrote it, exhibits her glorious superiority to man-made grammar laws, for which we admire her and are grateful in our own cowardice. It also lets us understand the admirable homely-mindedness of the country lady who became the President's wife, keeping state in New York in his absence, longing, good-womanlike, for the free and happier life in the pretty Virginia home.

NEW YORK, October the 22nd, 1789.

MY DEAR FANNY,—I have by Mrs. Sims sent for a watch it is one of the cargo that I have so often mentioned to you, that was expected, I hope is such a one as will please you—it is of the newest fashion, if that has any influence on your taste. The chain is of Mr. Lear's choosing and such as Mrs. Adams the vice President's Lady and those in the polite circle wares and will last as long as the fashion—and by that time you can get another of a fashionable kind—I send to dear Maria a piece of chintz to make her frock—the piece of muslin I hope is long enough for an apron for you, and in exchange for it, I beg you will give me the worked muslin apron you have like my gown that I made just before I left home of worked muslin as I wish to make a petticoat of the two aprons,—for my gown—Mrs. Sims will give you a better account of the fashions than I can. I live a very dull life here and know nothing that passes in the town—I never go to any public place—indeed I think I am more like a state prisoner than anything

else, there is certain bounds set for me which I must not depart from—and as I cannot do as I like I am obstinate and stay at home a great deal.

The President set out this day week on a tour to the eastward, Mr. Lear and Major Jackson attended him. My dear children has very bad colds but thank god they are getting better. My love and good wishes attend you and all with you. Remember me to Mr. and Mrs. L. W. How is the poor child—kiss Maria I send her two little handkerchiefs to wipe her nose.

Adieu

I am my dear Fanny yours most affectionately.

M. WASHINGTON.

THE MISTRESS OF THE RANCH. By Frederick Thickstun Clark. New York: Harper & Bros. \$1.

This is the second venture the author has made into the romance of the far West. The success of his first novel, "On Cloud Mountain," will bespeak a welcome for this book from all who know something of the intenseness and racy dialogue of ranch life. The arrival of two sisters in the Nebraska community, their lively dialect talk, the exciting experiences they gain, and the rapid flow of incident, make interesting reading to the town-bred novel-lover. Between the lines of the story we get an insight into the strange life and scenes of the West, where a strong race is being developed, whose influence on the future of this land will be mightier than many a light-hearted Easterner dreams. We want to know all we can of the coming people, from observers of every kind, statisticians to novelists.

AN UNCROWNED KING. By Sidney C. Grier. New York: G. P. Putnam's Son's. 50 cents.

The Hudson Library, as this series is named, has turned out some first-rate books. This, the twentieth issue, is a self-styled romance of high politics. If high politics is the right word to hit off the present complication in Europe, and if romance describes the intriguing conflicts of Greek and Turk, Russ, Serb, German and Britain, then this novel is a very appropriate sort of commentary on existing affairs. It is full of foreign kings, countries and diplomatists, of intrigues and games of war, in which the destinies of peoples count for dice. Perhaps there is some use in stories of this sort. The author protests against the supposition that he is dealing with real events and people under disguised names, but the wide-awake newspaper reader will be tempted to trace the originals through their veil, and whether he is right or not in fixing the plot and plotters, he will have some pleasure for his pains.

MR. AND MRS. HANNIBAL HAWKINS. By Belle C. Greene. New York: American Publishers Corporation. 25 cents.

This, it will interest some to know, is a continuation of the "Adventures of an Old Maid," by the same author. The lady is now Mrs. Hawkins, and, with her husband, makes a laughable subject for a story of this sort, which runs on humorous lines, with plenty of rustic dialect and fun.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

BIRD-LIFE: A Guide to the Study of Our Common Birds. By Frank M. Chapman. pp. 269. Illustrated. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75.

GENERAL GRANT. The Great Commanders Series. By Gen. James Grant Wilson. pp. 390. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.50.

DIE NONNA. By Rudolf Baumbach. With English Notes and a German-English Vocabulary, by Dr. Wilhelm Bernhardt. pp. 97. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 30 cents.

MATERIALS FOR GERMAN COMPOSITION. By James Taft Hatfield. pp. 27. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 12c.

BANKING SYSTEMS OF THE WORLD. By William Matthews Handy. pp. 190. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co.

ABOUT BOOKS AND WRITERS.

Our indulgent courtesy to foreign writers, who deign to come over and enlighten our intellects and pockets in one operation, has never paraded itself more conspicuously than in the recent lecturing trip of M. Brunetière, the French critic. Infallibility is the badge of all his tribe, as polite skepticism is of nine-tenths of their disciples, and the Frenchman was no exception. He had the merit of being outspoken, and on this *Leslie's Weekly* has the following remarks to make: "No trade conditions, no paralyzing need for log-rolling, hamper his efforts. He may speak the truth defiantly. Here no critic would dare do that. The scholarly, appreciative Woodberry has shown that he has the capacity to speak with convincing truth of contemporaneous American literature, such as it is, but he cannot. The personal relation makes it impossible for him, for instance, to say exactly what the merits or shortcomings of Mr. Mabie's latest work are,

and it would be practically impossible for Professor Brander Matthews to print precisely what he thinks of Howells, or for Howells to give, as he could give, an estimate of the qualities Professor Matthews reveals in his sketches and short tales. There is no American academy which may defy the exigencies of trade or the advertising-agent; and we have no *Revue des Deux Mondes* which is entirely superior to the counting-room. Perhaps if we had real criticism we might see signs of the coming of a real literature. The sham article that passes for criticism serves only to encourage mediocrity. Nearly all of our so-called critics have ambition to write pure literature, and each is tempted to pat the other on the back with a lively sense of reciprocity. Mr. Howells tries to destroy our cherished faith in Dickens and Tackray, but it is with soft speech and gentle touch that he calls attention to living American writers. Suppose an American Brunetière should review American literature of the past twenty years? What fierce assaults upon him there would be; how complete and deadly his ostracism!"

George MacDonald has found a champion at last, to the credit of Scotland be it recorded. A Canadian Scot, sick of the twaddle poured at the feet of Barrie, Maclaren, Crockett, and their like, as founders of the "New Scottish School" of fictionists, boldly claims the laurel for MacDonald, and he is right. The younger tribe are neither more nor less than gleaners in the fields their master has well reaped. They are canny enough to pocket the glory and the bawbees without a word of acknowledgment of their indebtedness to him. MacDonald's books, preachy though they often are, will keep their popularity long after the "new" geniuses and their imitation novels have been forgotten, and will be read by intellectual people. It has been our privilege, though scarcely a pleasure, to hear MacDonald preach in the pulpit, and see him as Greatheart in his dramatized version of the *Pilgrim's Progress*. To read his books through has been a task beyond our mortal power, but nothing these over-puffed "new" Scotchmen have written, said, or done has lifted them to within a cubit of the mental stature of George MacDonald, the writer of wholesome fiction, a good man and true.

The mission of public libraries cannot be discussed too much. Two of them, the Young Women's Christian Association, of New York, and the Carnegie Library, of Allegheny, Pa., have weeded out a number of books that ought never to have got into libraries purporting to be and do good. The librarian of the latter city bears out what observant critics have these many years been saying of the supposed elevating tendency of these very free libraries. He says:

"The theory advanced by librarians of standing that readers to whom books of this grade are supplied will gradually rise to something better has proved in the six years' experience of this library absolutely false. To the young, who have no personal literary guides, it is particularly an injustice for the public library to put it in their power to acquire thus early in life a vitiated taste in their reading, a fault which long years of study may not suffice to correct. School principals have complained that many of their pupils were reading books of this grade to the gross neglect of their school studies."

When eighty per cent. of free library books in actual circulation prove to be fiction, and when eighty per cent. of fiction is silly stuff, when not worse, it stands to reason that unrestricted acquisition, and distribution to readers, of whom eighty per cent. are minors or little more, must tend toward weakness rather than strength.

In its literary editorial, a column long, the Philadelphia *Bulletin* dwelt on the career of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, which has just printed its ten thousandth number. Its name was borrowed from Thackeray's novel "Pendennis," in which a paper so entitled was projected, "to be written by gentlemen for gentlemen." The *Bulletin* enlarged on the queer fact that Thackeray never condescended to write in the paper he had "founded." The *Bulletin* had not fortified itself with the facts, which give strength to the critic's fist. "Pendennis" was written in the forties. The *Pall Mall Gazette* was not founded until 1865. Thackeray, curious to think, did not write in it because he died on Christmas eve, 1863.

The claim for woman suffrage, first formulated in 1848, never

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PHILADELPHIA.

Please mention The American.

has been allowed to lie dormant since, not even in the storm and stress of the Civil War. Yet it is only a few years ago that an organized opposition to the movement was started by women. Francis Parkman, Goldwin Smith, and other students have written against woman suffrage, but no complete exposition of the subject from the opposing point of view has ever been published. This will be furnished in "Woman and the Republic," by Helen Kendrick Johnson, now in the press of the Messrs. Appleton. Mrs. Johnson considers the subject historically, legally, morally, and socially, meets all the arguments of the suffrage leaders, sets forth some considerations that are entirely new, and gives a complete account of the progress of the movement in various parts of the world.

Mark Twain says that he was never in better health or spirits, notwithstanding the reports of his death, published in the newspapers. He is still at work on his new book. He had finished it with the record of his travels in India, but his publishers asked him for an additional 30,000 words on Africa, and that is the part he is working on now. As has already been announced in this column, Mr. Clemens' book, of which he is reported to have said that it is the best thing he has ever done, will be ready in the fall.

Dr. G. Birkbeck Hill's long-promised "Johnsonian Miscellanies," consisting of upwards of 1,000 pages, is practically ready for publication. Volume I. contains Johnson's prayers and meditations, his account of his childhood, Madame Piozzi's anecdotes, and Murphy's essay on the life and genius of Johnson; while Volume II is made up of anecdotes drawn from some scores of sources—letters from Johnson to various persons, Tyer's biographical sketch, extracts from Hawkin's life of Johnson, etc.; and it includes also an elaborate index and a concordance of Johnson's sayings.

In the *Open Court* for May is an article on Schopenhauer. There are five illustrations, giving the appearance of the philosopher of pessimism. It is so easy in looking at the photograph of a bust of Schopenhauer to think that knowing his antecedents, you can discover what kind of a man he was. The bust was made in 1859, and shows the head of a man of striking ability. The photographs taken as Schopenhauer faced the camera are curious. There are two, a pair, taken, say, on the same day, which Schopenhauer highly prized. In the one there is no cynicism apparent, only the countenance of an old gentleman who is apparently summing you up. In the other picture Schopenhauer is smiling pleasantly. He had then absorbed a bottle of wine, and he looks like a jolly old gentleman.

The late Edward Hale Bierstadt collected in twenty years a library which cost him about \$10,000. The sale of it last month, in New York, yielded \$14,000. Many standard editions went for a third of their cost, but first editions and rare books brought very large prices. Sheridan's plays, first editions brought, "School for Scandal," \$210; the "Rivals," the same, and the "Critic," \$27. Hawthorne's "Twice Told Tales," \$18; "Scarlet Letter," \$20. Longfellow's "Evangeline," \$56. Lowell's "Poems," \$36.

Under the heading, "The Day's Best Verse," a Sunday paper includes the following bits of doggerel which actually appeared, so it says, in a recent *Century Magazine*:

INTERPRETATION.

Thoroughness.

"A stitch in time saves nine";
But I would rather wait,
To let the tailor sew more fine
And take the other eight.

Publicity.

'Tis said that "good wine needs no bush,"
Since he who's tasted buys it;
But dealers who their trade would push
Had better advertise it.

Activity.

"A rolling stone gathers no moss,"
(Which the stone may account little loss ;)
And if it will roll in the snow
In bulk it will certainly grow.



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In the 1897 Columbia models a feature of special importance is the double fork crown. It is a special construction which we have tried and found to be the strongest. The crown is encased in nickel-plated escutcheons, excluding dust or dirt, and giving a rich, distinctive finish, so that at a glance the fact that the wheel is the Columbia is apparent.

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NOTES AND QUERIES FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL.

Special Tour to Japan, China, and the Hawaiian Islands, August and September, 1897.

For several years past our tours to the Orient have been distinguished for their comprehensiveness and general high character, and for a much longer period our Hawaiian trips have been most favorably known. In announcing a special tour to those fascinating countries for the autumn and early winter of 1897, therefore, we have little reason to do more than announce the trip in brief terms, inasmuch as it is to be carried out upon the same liberal lines as in the past. Tourists generally have devoted too little time to Japan, a country that presents in its picturesque scenery, its arts and its quaint native life no end of interesting features. In no part of the world is traveling more delightful than in the "Land of the Rising Sun," and in no country does the stranger encounter more novel experiences. Enough of China may be seen within a comfortable day's journey of the great English treaty ports, and few foreigners penetrate far into the interior of the country.

Our tour for 1897 is so arranged that by an earlier departure from the eastern cities of this country, or from San Francisco, a comprehensive round of travel may be had through the Hawaiian Islands—the "Paradise of the Pacific"—this including a visit to the great living volcano of Kilauea. If Hawaii is to be included, the departure from Boston, New York and Philadelphia will be on Tuesday, August 24, and from Cleveland and Chicago a day later. The journey across the Continent in the latter case will be broken by a sojourn over Sunday at Salt Lake City. Sailing from San Francisco September 2, this party will reach Honolulu September 9, and twenty days will be occupied in the trip to Hilo and the volcano and in a restful sojourn at Honolulu. In connection with this tour there will be an opportunity for persons who do not desire to visit Japan and China to return direct to San Francisco and the eastern cities, or to spend the winter on the Pacific Coast.

The main party, or the one which proposes to omit the Hawaiian tour, will leave Boston, New York and Philadelphia Monday, September 13th, and Cleveland and Chicago a day later. Crossing the Continent without delay, it will sail from San Francisco September 21st, and at Honolulu (where a stop of from twelve to twenty hours will be made) the Hawaiian party will join. Reaching Yokohama about the 10th of October, the party will have upwards of a month in which to travel through Japan, visiting Kamakura, Enoshima, Nikko, Lake Chuzenji, Tokyo, Miyanoshita, Hakone, Atami, Nagoya, Kyoto, Lake Biwa, Nara, Osaka, Kobe, the beautiful Inland Sea and Nagasaki. This period will embrace the Maple festivals, the Chrysanthemum season, the festivities surrounding the birthday of the Mikado, and other important events. Sailing from Nagasaki across the China Sea, visits will follow to Shanghai, Hong Kong, Canton and Macao, so that a good insight may be had of the "heart of China." Starting homeward from Hong Kong November 27th, there will be second visits, briefer than before, to Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama, with a second trip through the picturesque Inland Sea of Japan. Finally leaving Yokohama, December 9th, the party will sail for San Francisco via Honolulu, thus taking the pleasant and genial southern route at a season when it is far more inviting than the northern course. San Francisco will be reached December 26th, and the eastern cities by January 1st.

Messrs. Raymond & Whitcomb, 1005 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, will issue a special circular descriptive of the tour and profusely illustrated, and this will be forwarded by them to all persons interested in the trip.—*Adv.*

Deer Park on the Crest of the Alleghanies.

To those contemplating a trip to the mountains in search of health or pleasure, Deer Park, on the crest of the Alleghany Mountains, 3,000 feet above sea level, offers such varied attractions as a delightful atmosphere during both day and night, pure water, smooth, winding roads through the mountains and valleys, Cricket grounds, Ball grounds, Golf links, Tennis courts, and the most picturesque scenery in the Alleghany range. The hotel is equipped with all adjuncts conducive to the entertainment, pleasure and comfort of guests.

There are also a number of furnished cottages with facilities for housekeeping.

The houses and grounds are supplied with absolutely pure water, piped from the celebrated "Boiling Spring," and are lighted with electricity. Deer Park is on the main line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and has the advantage of its

splendid Vestibule Limited Express trains between the East and West. Season excursion tickets, good for return passage until October 31st, will be placed on sale at greatly reduced rates at all principal ticket offices throughout the country.

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For full information as to rates, rooms, etc., address D. C. Jones, Manager, Camden Station, Baltimore, Md.—*Adv.*

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